

Message

From: Martinson, Mathew [martinson.mathew@epa.gov]
Sent: 6/10/2020 8:26:46 PM
To: Davies, Lauris [Davies.Lauris@epa.gov]
Subject: Stats from LUB GWMA Wells

Lauris – This is what we have been using as a summary through the interviews and in the talking points last Thursday.

From the publicly available reports and information, this is what we know about individual (private) domestic drinking water wells:

- 1) The LUBGWMA Second Local Action Plan (2019 draft) indicates 72 private wells with nitrates over the national primary drinking water standard. This report estimates that “30 – 40%” are contaminated.*
- 2) Four synoptic events covering 255 wells (including 56 private wells from the State’s Real Estate Transaction database) show 48% of wells in LUBGWMA exceed the nitrate standard.*
- 3) According to OHA data collected through the real estate transaction database, 10 of 55 wells tested through real estate transactions have exceeded the nitrate primary drinking water standard at some point in the past 10 years. However, this program has an estimated 20% participation rate (according to OHA) due to lack of enforcement.*

We back-calculated from census data and State public water system data that there are “up-to” 15,000 people who could be drinking from water sources other than public water systems (82,000 people in the two counties, of which 67,000 are connected to public water systems). With just under 3 people per home on average per the census, Jeff and I roughly figured that there could be as many as 5,000 private wells in the two counties used for domestic purposes. But, the State has no idea what the actual number is.

Thanks,
Mat



Mathew J. Martinson, P.E., BCEE
CAPT, U.S. Public Health Service
Chief | Permits, Drinking Water and Infrastructure Branch
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 10
1200 Sixth Avenue; Suite 155, Mail Stop 19-H16
Seattle, Washington 98101-3140
(206) 553-6334
Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) (cell)
